

In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below with changes shown in accordance with the mandatory amendment format.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

reading data from a first dirty cache line in a cache memory;

determining if the data within the first dirty cache line is corrupt;

marking the first dirty cache line invalid if the data within the first dirty cache line is corrupt;

determining if a duplicate cache line of the first dirty cache line exists, wherein duplicate cache lines are only created for dirty cache lines in the cache memory;

if the duplicate cache line exists:

~~determining if the data within the duplicate cache line is corrupt if the duplicate cache line exists;~~

writing ~~[[the]]~~ data within the duplicate cache line to a first location in a memory if the data within the duplicate cache line is not corrupt; and

marking the first dirty cache line available.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising~~[[:]]~~ if the data from the first dirty cache line is not corrupt, then:

writing the data from the first dirty cache line to the first ~~memory~~ location;

marking the first dirty cache line available;

determining ~~at least one~~ or more duplicate ~~dirty~~ cache lines of the first dirty cache line;
and

marking each duplicate ~~dirty~~ cache line as an available cache line.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising marking ~~each~~ the duplicate ~~dirty~~ cache line invalid if the data within the duplicate ~~dirty~~ cache line is corrupt.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising determining that no duplicate cache lines exist.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising terminating the method if a duplicate cache line ~~is not found~~ does not exist.

8.-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a cache memory; and

a cache controller, coupled to the cache memory, to:

receive a request to write data to a location within the cache memory;[[,]]

read data from a first dirty cache line in the cache memory in response to receiving the request;[[,]]

mark the first dirty cache line invalid if the data is corrupt;[[,]]

determine if a duplicate cache line of the first dirty cache line exists, wherein duplicate cache lines are only created for dirty cache lines in the cache memory;[[,]]

if the duplicate cache line exists:

write [[the]] data within the duplicate cache line to a first location in a

main memory device if the duplicate cache line is not corrupt;[[,]] and

mark the first dirty cache line available.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the cache controller invokes a replacement policy to free up one or more cache lines of the cache memory if there are no cache lines available.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein if the data from the first dirty cache line is not corrupt, the cache controller further operates to:

write[[s]] the data to the first ~~memory~~ location; ~~if the data from the first dirty cache line is not corrupt~~,

mark[[s]] the first dirty cache line available;[[,]]

determine[[s]] at least one duplicate dirty cache line for the first dirty cache line;[[,]] and

mark[[s]] each duplicate dirty cache line as an available cache line.

23-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) The method of claim 3, further comprising if the duplicate cache line exists and if the data within the duplicate cache line is not corrupt:

determining one or more other duplicate cache lines of the first dirty cache line; and

marking each duplicate cache line as an available cache line.

26. (New) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

determining if one or more other duplicate cache lines of the first dirty cache line exist;

determining if data within the one or more other duplicate cache lines is corrupt;

writing the data within one of the other duplicate cache lines that is not corrupt to the first location; and

marking the each of the other duplicate cache lines and the first dirty cache line as an available cache line.

27. (New) The method of claim 3, further comprising invoking a replacement policy to free up one or more cache lines of the cache memory if there are no cache lines available.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising marking the duplicate cache line invalid if the data within the duplicate cache line is corrupt.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising determining that no duplicate cache lines exist.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising if the duplicate cache line exists and if the data within the duplicate cache line is not corrupt:

determining one or more other duplicate cache lines of the first dirty cache line; and
marking each duplicate cache line as an available cache line.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 28, further comprising:

determining if one or more other duplicate cache lines of the first dirty cache line exist;
determining if data within the one or more other duplicate cache lines is corrupt;
writing the data within one of the other duplicate cache lines that is not corrupt to the first location; and

marking the each of the other duplicate cache lines and the first dirty cache line as an available cache line.